

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE DENTISTRY EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY :  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :

|                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| RICHARD L. WALK, D.D.S., | FINAL DECISION AND ORDER |
| RESPONDENT               | LS 9910251 DEN           |

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The parties to this proceeding for purposes of sec. 227.53, Stats., are:

Richard L. Walk, D.D.S.  
777 East Park Ave.  
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board  
1400 E. Washington Ave.  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Department of Regulation And Licensing  
Division of Enforcement  
1400 E. Washington Ave.  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

The Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board received a Stipulation submitted by the parties to the above-captioned matter. The Stipulation, a copy of which is attached hereto, was executed by Richard L. Walk, D.D.S., personally, and by his attorney, J. Drew Ryberg, and by Gilbert C. Lubcke, attorney for the Department of Regulation And Licensing, Division of Enforcement. Based upon the Stipulation of the parties, the Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Richard L. Walk, D.D.S., 777 East Park Avenue, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, 54729, was born on 11/30/41 and has been licensed and registered to practice dentistry in the state of Wisconsin since 6/17/68, license #5000578.
2. Dr. Walk is engaged in the practice of general dentistry.
3. Dr. Walk provided dental care for his patient, L.S., from 7/6/81 through 9/2/94. L.S. had periodontal disease. Dr. Walk failed to fully and consistently document in the patient's records the results of periodontal probings of the pocket depths from 1986 through 1994, although record of some pocket depths were so noted in the chart.
4. Dr. Walk's current patients seen with periodontal involvement are charted using PSR (Periodontal Screening and Recording) and strongly urged to be evaluated by a periodontist if they are, or exceed, code 3 as recommended by the ADA and AAP. Those declining referral are documented in their charts as having declined

and then appropriate non-surgical treatment is recommended. Monitoring of their periodontal status is done at least annually or more often if indicated. Those with continuing attachment loss are again encouraged to be evaluated by a periodontist. This review and recommendation are done recurrently with such patients and so noted in the chart.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board has jurisdiction in this proceeding pursuant to sec. 447.07, Stats.
2. The Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board has the authority to resolve this disciplinary proceeding by stipulation without an evidentiary hearing pursuant to sec. 227.44(5), Stats.
3. Dr. Walk's conduct as described in paragraph 3 of the Findings of Fact was conduct in violation of to sec. 447.07(3)(a), Stats. and Wis. Admin. Code sec. DE 5.02(5).
4. The Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board has the authority pursuant to sec. 440.22, Stats., to assess the costs of this proceeding against Dr. Walk.

#### ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the Stipulation of the parties is approved.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Richard L. Walk, D.D.S. will, within one year of the date of this Final Decision And Order, take and complete a total of 16 hours of instruction on the subject of the diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of periodontal disease and on the subject of dental recordkeeping including recordkeeping relating to the diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of periodontal disease. Of the total of 16 hours of instruction required by this Order, a minimum of 12 hours of instruction will be on the subject of the diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of periodontal disease. Of the total of 16 hours of instruction required by this Order, a minimum of 4 hours of instruction will be on the subject of dental recordkeeping including recordkeeping relating to the diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of periodontal disease. Each course attended in satisfaction of this Order must be pre-approved by the Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board or its designee. Dr. Walk will be responsible for locating courses satisfactory to the Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board or its designee and for obtaining the required approval of the courses from the Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board. Dr. Walk will be responsible for all costs associated with attending these courses.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Richard L. Walk, D.D.S. will file with the Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board certifications from the sponsoring organizations of his attendance at the required courses and his affidavit stating under oath that he has attended each course in its entirety. The certifications of attendance from the sponsoring organizations and Dr. Walk's affidavit will be filed with the Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board within 60 days of the date upon which the courses are concluded.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that certifications, affidavits or other documents required to be filed with the Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board be filed with:

Department Monitor

Department of Regulation And Licensing

Division of Enforcement

P.O. Box 8935

1400 East Washington Ave.

Madison, WI 53708

All certifications, affidavits or other documents required to be filed with the Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board will be deemed filed with the Dentistry Examining Board upon receipt by the Department Monitor.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Richard L. Walk, D.D.S. will pay the costs of this proceeding in the amount of \$3,500.00 to the Department of Regulation and Licensing, 1400 East Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8935, Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8935, within 30 days of the date of this Final Decision And Order.

The rights of a party aggrieved by this Final Decision And Order to petition the Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board for rehearing and to petition for judicial review are set forth in the attached "Notice of Appeal Information".

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, this 12th day of July, 2000.

WISCONSIN DENTISTRY EXAMINING BOARD

M. J. Curran

Member, Wisconsin Dentistry Examining Board

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